

My wife and I are residents of Salisbury, CT, and grandparents of four young children, two of whom live in Connecticut (New Preston). Both are in the Washington, CT school system, one in the third grade, the other in first. I can only imagine the trauma suffered by the siblings and parents (and grandparents) of the dead children in Newtown, but my imagination is limited by the sheer horror of that awful event. It is simply incomprehensible. Equally incomprehensible is the notion that the safety of our grandchildren and that of thousands of other children across Connecticut could be compromised by the desire, not the right, to own certain kinds of guns. There is nothing in the 2nd Amendment that legalizes a desire to own firearms that shoot multiple rounds in a matter of seconds -- firearms that really have but one purpose, the killing of human beings. Public safety trumps the notion that someone can own such guns just because he or she wants to.

We support the legislative agenda put forth by CAGV, which includes:

a ban on high capacity ammunition magazines (no grandfathering); a strengthening of assault weapons ban (no grandfathering); requirement of permits and universal background checks on ALL sales and transfers of guns, including long guns; requirement of registration of handguns with annual renewal; requirement of annual fee and annual background check for all handguns owned; requirement that the owner stipulate that the guns are still in their possession or explain how the gun was transferred to another person; require safety inspection every three years; making gun owners liable for negligent storage if any person gains access to firearms and injures himself or another person or causes damage to property - the violation would be a Class D felony; a ban on the right of way for transportation of firearms and ammunition bought over the Internet; taxing ammunition sales and requirement of a license/permit to purchase any gun or ammunition; restriction of handgun sales to one gun/month.

Sincerely,

George W. Faison

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Salisbury, CT

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